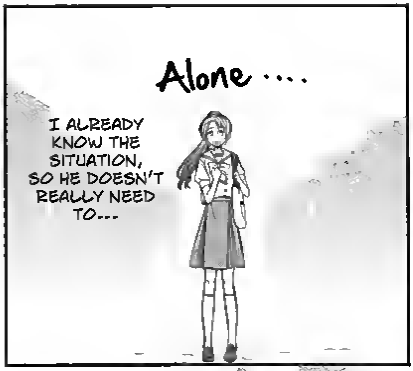
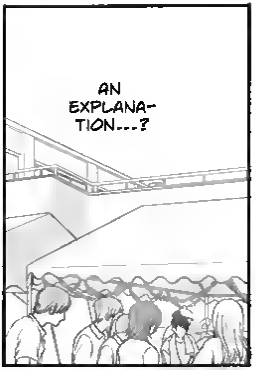
CHAPTER 5
兄友
あにとも
北高祭
HE—
NISHINO-SAN GOT KISSED!
HE—
KISS

AH, THERE YOU ARE!
NANASE-SAN, THIS IS—
W-WHAT?!
OUR CLASS HAS TROUBLE!
OUR FRIDGE BROKE, SO EVERYTHING HAS TURNED INTO MUSH!
BUT I—
ANYWAY, YOU'RE COMING SHOPPING WITH US, NISHINO!
WE'VE FOUND TWO MORE PEOPLE TO HELP!
N-NANASE-SAN!
I'LL EXPLAIN IT MYSELF WHEN I GET BACK!





THIS... DOESN'T MAKE SENSE.

WHY DID I

WITHDRAW MY HAND?

Please make your way to the lost-kids tent
PIYO-KICHI-KUN!
Dear visitor Maimai-san, Ringo-chan is waiting for you.
MAIMAI!
BEFORE MAKING YOUR WAY TO THE LOST-KIDS CENTRE, YOU COULD HAVE GIVEN ME A CALL, YOU KNOW?!
YOU'RE ALREADY A HIGH-SCHOOL STUDENT!
AW, BUT...
Hmm
I WAS GOING TO CALL YOU AS WELL, SO I TOLD THEM TO MAKE THAT ANNOUNCEMENT.

ONII?
ALL RIGHT.
FOR NOW, TAKE THIS.
HUH?
WEAR IT.
WHAT?
plop
I'LL PAY YOU, SO JUST DO IT.
Okay? Now go.
NO—! IT SOUNDS LEWD!
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO MAKE ME DO?! I DON'T WANT TO DO IT! LET ME GO!
WAIT!
NO
drag
drag
drag
BYE~

AS YOU'VE PROBABLY HEARD, OUR FRIDGE IS ON ITS DEATHBED BECAUSE OF THAT, ALL OF OUR FOOD HAS GONE BAD
WE RUSHED HALF OF THE CLASS TO THE SUPER-MARKET TO BUY MORE STOCK, BUT THEY'RE NOT GOING TO BE BACK FOR A WHILE

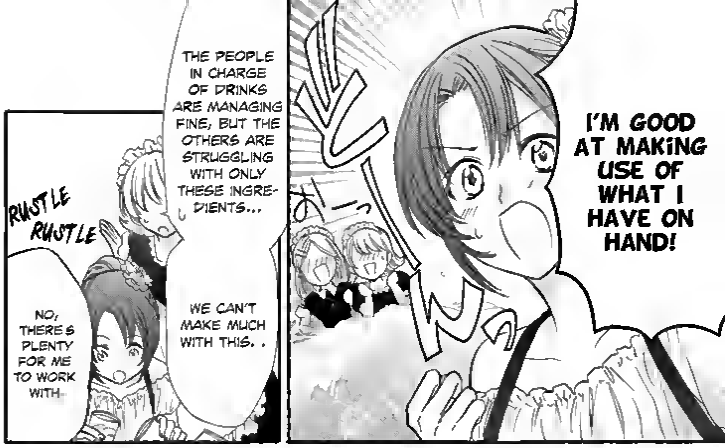
WE'RE LUCKY THAT PEOPLE FROM OTHER CLASSES HAVE GIVEN US SOME OF THEIR EXCESS,
BUT THE AVERAGE HIGH-SCHOOLER DOESN'T HAVE THE ABILITY OF A SUPER-HOUSEWIFE TO MAKE UP A COMPLETELY NEW MENU WITH WHAT EVER WE HAVE ON HAND NOW

WHY DO YOU THINK I MADE YOU CHANGE INTO THOSE CLOTHES?
RIGHT, SO THEY WON'T FIND OUT I'M NOT FROM THIS SCHOOL... I REALLY HATE HOW YOU'RE SUCH A TYRANT...

AND THEN, I REMEMBERED THAT YOU CAME TO THE FESTIVAL.
SO WHAT?! I'M A STUDENT FROM ANOTHER SCHOOL, REMEMBER?!
ゴゴ…

WHY DO I HAVE TO WEAR THIS?
Bar waitress

I-I'M REALLY SORRY... OUR HANDS ARE COMPLETELY FULL...
And we're terrible at handling accidents
WE HEARD THAT YOU'RE GOOD AT COOKING AND WE'RE HANGING BY A THREAD...
BUT WE WON'T FORCE YOU TO HELP IF YOU REALLY DON'T WANT TO!
U-UM...
AHH~ WHAT SHOULD I DO? EVERYONE HERE IS OLDER THAN ME...
I'M NOT GOOD AT ENGAGING WITH OTHER PEOPLE EITHER! ONII, YOU IDIOT!
WHAT?!
GIRLS, GUESTS INCOMING!
APPARENTLY, A QUEEN WEARING A BLACK DRESS LURED THEM HERE...
SO IT'S YOUR FAULT!
I'VE GOT STUDENT COUNCIL WORK, SO I'M LEAVING NOW
FINE...
I'LL DO IT!


I'M GOOD AT MAKING USE OF WHAT I HAVE ON HAND!
THE PEOPLE IN CHARGE OF DRINKS ARE MANAGING FINE, BUT THE OTHERS ARE STRUGGLING WITH ONLY THESE INGREDIENTS...
RUSTLE RUSTLE
WE CAN'T MAKE MUCH WITH THIS..
NO, THERE'S PLENTY FOR ME TO WORK WITH.

SHAPE THEM INTO BALLS AND PLACE THEM IN BOILING WATER. TAKE THEM OUT AFTER A FEW MINUTES AND IMMEDIATELY IMMERSE THEM IN ICE WATER
AFTER THAT, ADD SOME TO THE BOWL OF FRUITS
AND FINISH IT OFF WITH SOME CIDER.
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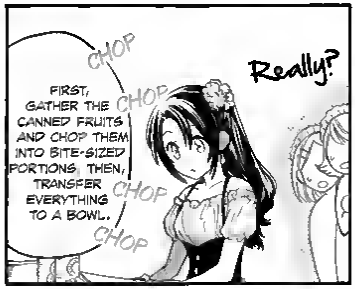
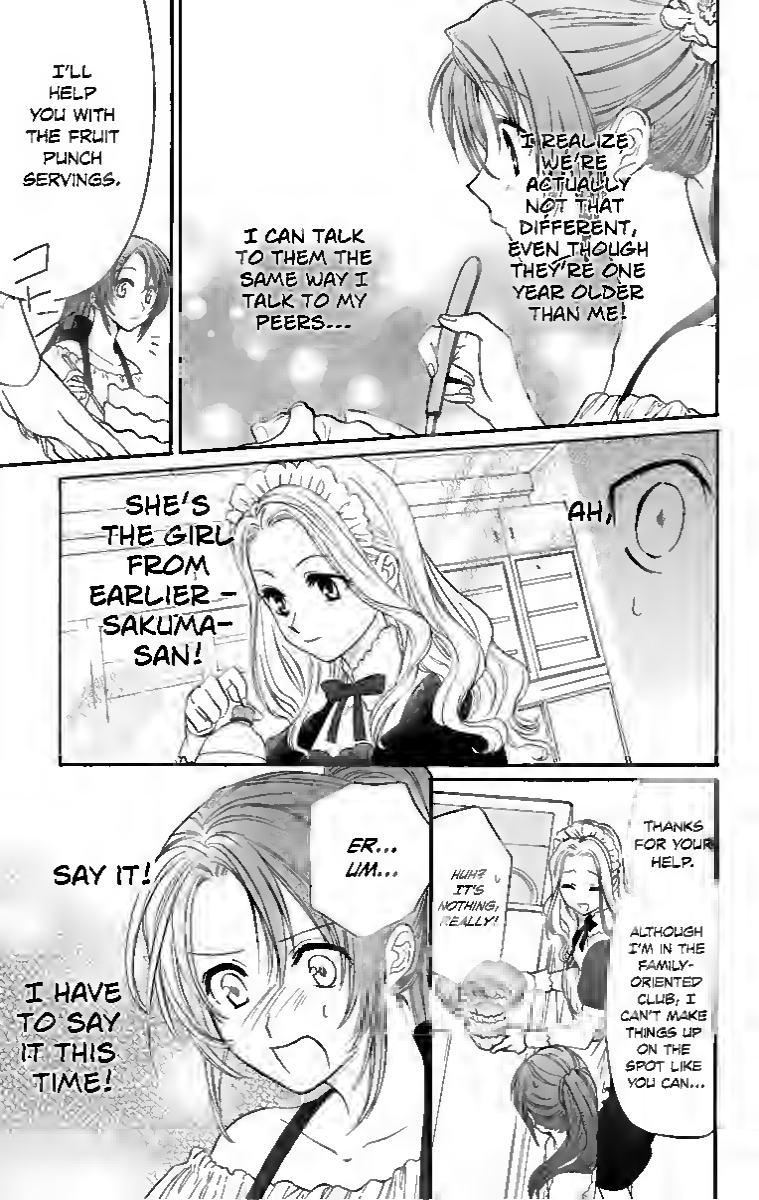
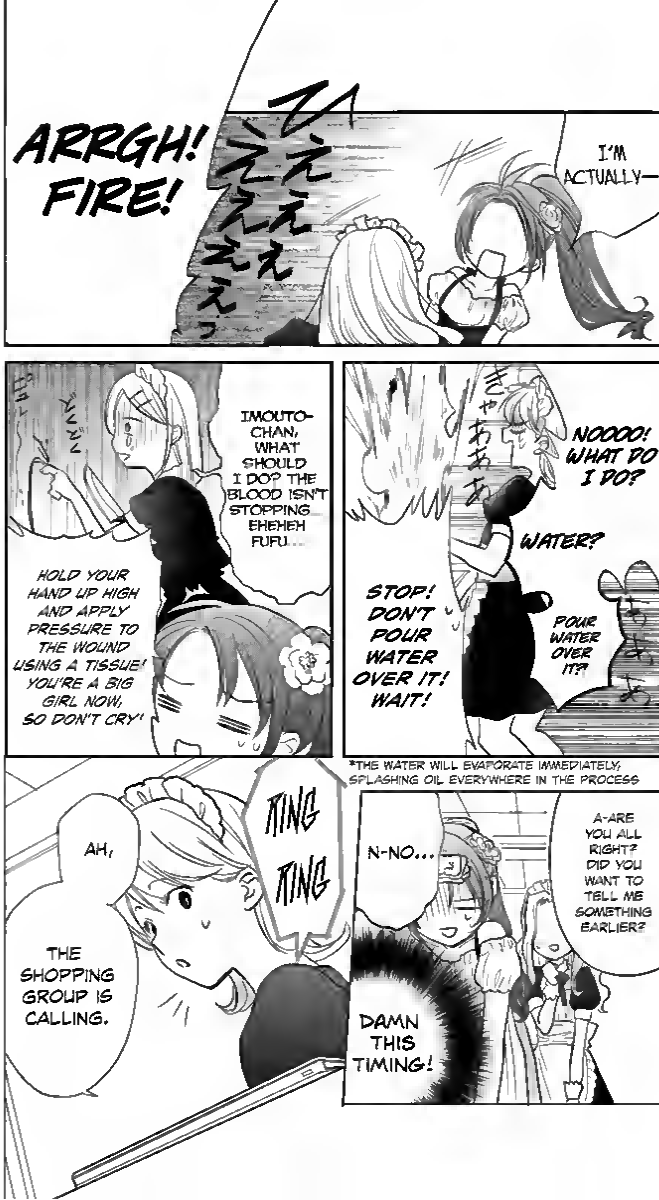

Really?
FIRST, GATHER THE CANNED FRUITS AND CHOP THEM INTO BITE-SIZED PORTIONS. THEN, TRANSFER EVERYTHING TO A BOWL.
CHOP
CHOP
CHOP
CHOP

WE'LL USE DANGO POWDER TO MAKE DANGO.
Ideally, we should use refined white flour, but that's not an option here, so, we'll make do with this
だんごの粉

AND NOW WE HAVE A SIMPLE FRUIT PUNCH.
AH- I SEE!
WE COULD NEVER COME UP WITH SUCH A CREATION!
WE FINALLY HAVE AN OPTION FOR OUR MENU!
AND, WE DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THE TYPES OF FRUIT!
WHY IS THERE SO MUCH PANCAKE MIX?
One, two, three...
AH, WELL, ABOUT THAT...
IT SEEMS LIKE THE OTHER CLASSES DIDN'T GET AROUND TO USING IT BECAUSE THEY DIDN'T REALIZE IT WOULD TAKE FOREVER TO MAKE STACKS OF PANCAKES.
WE CAN'T MAKE THEM SINCE WE DON'T HAVE A HOT PLATE.
THAT'S FINE. I CAN USE THIS TO BAKE A BATCH OF COOKIES IN FIVE MINUTES.

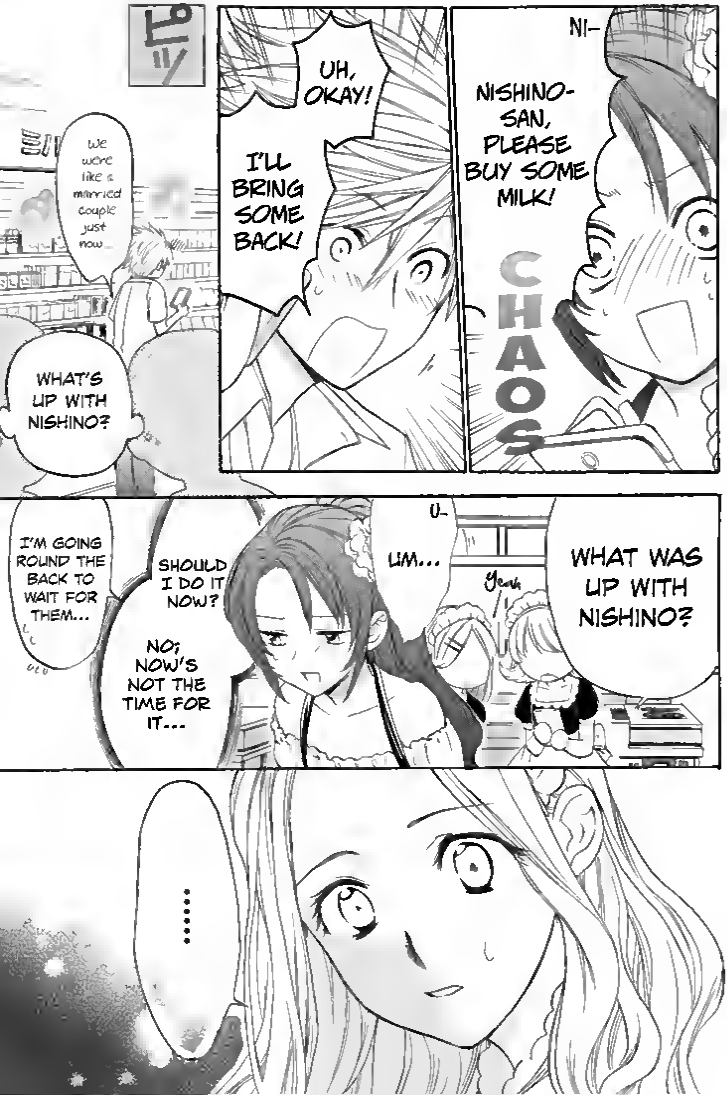
SHE REALLY MADE IT...
IN FIVE MINUTES...
IS THIS THE POWER OF... PAN-CAKE MIX?
What a fear-some child...
I'VE MADE SOME DONUTS.
IT'S A JACK-OF-ALL-TRADES!
WE HAVE MORE ORDERS FOR THE FRUIT PUNCH!
LET'S SEE, WHAT ELSE CAN I MAKE WITH PANCAKE MIX...
YOU CAN STILL MAKE MORE?! JUST WITH PANCAKE MIX?!
WOAH!
A FAMILY-ORIENTED GIRL IS KINDA NICE...
SHE'S WHAT MEN DREAM OF,
OTHER THAN THE FACT THAT SHE'S PRESIDENT'S SISTER.


I'LL HELP YOU WITH THE FRUIT PUNCH SERVINGS.
I REALIZE WE'RE ACTUALLY NOT THAT DIFFERENT, EVEN THOUGH THEY'RE ONE YEAR OLDER THAN ME!
I CAN TALK TO THEM THE SAME WAY I TALK TO MY PEERS...
AH,
SHE'S THE GIRL FROM EARLIER - SAKUMA-SAN!
THANKS FOR YOUR HELP.
HUH? IT'S NOTHING, REALLY!
ALTHOUGH I'M IN THE FAMILY-ORIENTED CLUB, I CAN'T MAKE THINGS UP ON THE SPOT LIKE YOU CAN...
ER... UM...
SAY IT!
I HAVE TO SAY IT THIS TIME!


ARRGH! FIRE!
えええええええ
I'M ACTUALLY—
IMOUTO-CHAN, WHAT SHOULD I DO? THE BLOOD ISN'T STOPPING... EHEHEH FUFU...
HOLD YOUR HAND UP HIGH AND APPLY PRESSURE TO THE WOUND USING A TISSUE! YOU'RE A BIG GIRL NOW, SO DON'T CRY!
きゃあああ
NOOOO! WHAT DO I DO?
WATER?
STOP! DON'T POUR WATER OVER IT! WAIT!
POUR WATER OVER IT?!
*THE WATER WILL EVAPORATE IMMEDIATELY, SPLASHING OIL EVERYWHERE IN THE PROCESS
A-ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? DID YOU WANT TO TELL ME SOMETHING EARLIER?
N-NO...
DAMN THIS TIMING!
RING RING
AH,
THE SHOPPING GROUP IS CALLING.

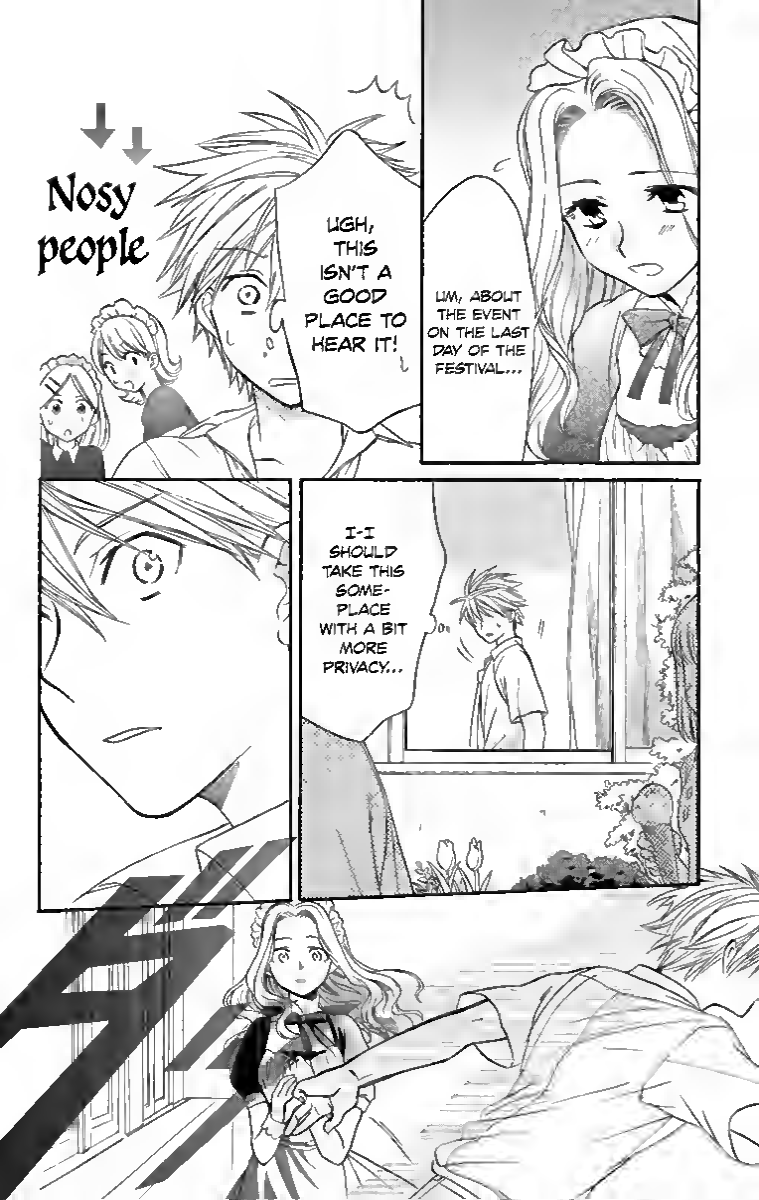
ALL RIGHT, WE'VE MADE IT TO THE SUPERMARKET. WHAT DO YOU WANT US TO BUY?!
PAN-CAKE MIX!
BUY SOME MORE CIDER! THE GROUP IN CHARGE OF DRINKS ARE ABOUT TO RUN OUT!
AH, PLEASE BUY SOME CANNED FRUITS THAT HAVE ALREADY BEEN DICED. IF POSSIBLE, GET THE ONES THAT ARE MADE FOR COOKING
HUH?! NANASE-SAN?!
WHA—
WHAT ARE YOU DOING THERE?!
What? What?
OH, RIGHT. HE WAS IN THE SHOPPING GROUP.
This is awkward!!

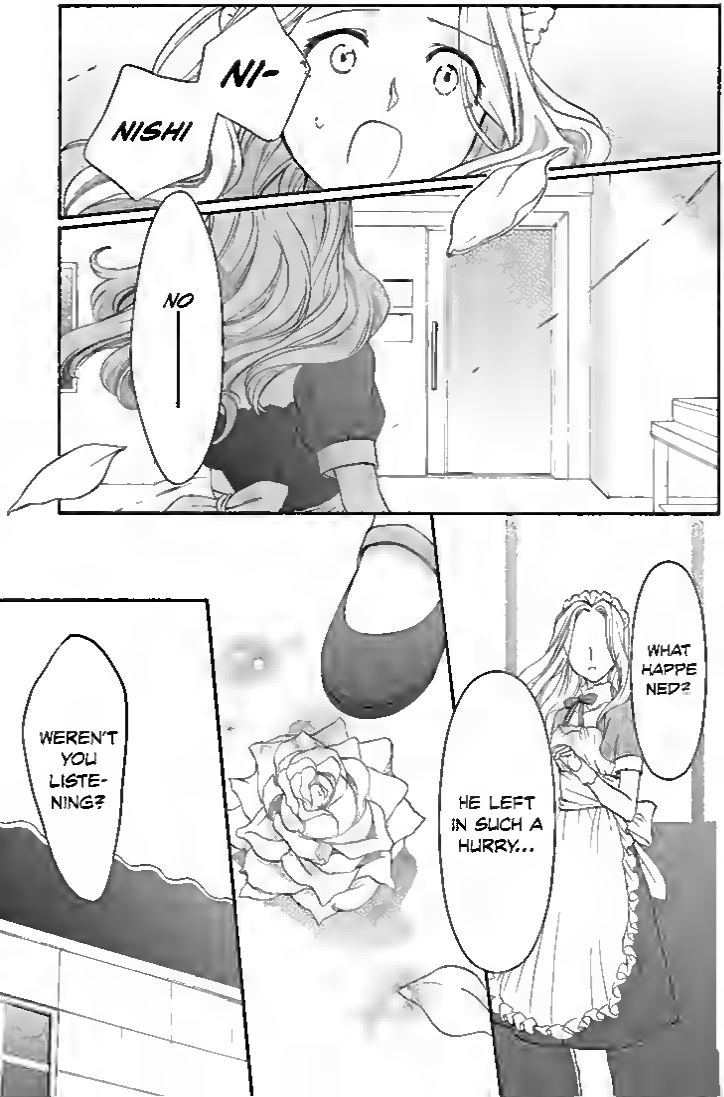
Her baking skills are so good, it's scary!
She's baking batches of sweets one after the other!
Man, listen to this! She's helping us out in the kitchen, and she's amazing!
I-I'm not that good...
I KNOW THAT, AS WELL!
I KNOW THAT!
HUH?!
WHAT'S UP WITH NISHINO?
AH,
UM! ERR...!
panic panic
SHE BAKED COOKIES
THE LAST TIME I WENT TO YUKIHIRO'S HOUSE...
You guys sound like you're getting along with her really well... Stop it...

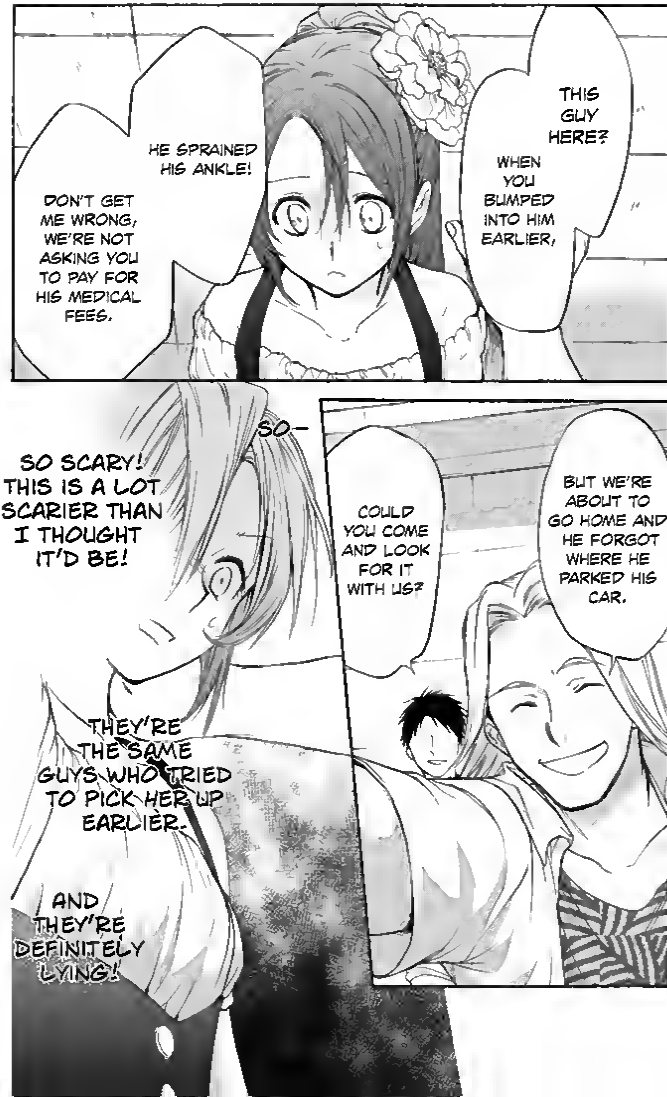

NI-
NISHINO-SAN, PLEASE BUY SOME MILK!
UH, OKAY!
I'LL BRING SOME BACK!
CHAOS
We were like a married couple just now...
WHAT'S UP WITH NISHINO?
U-
UM...
Yeah
WHAT WAS UP WITH NISHINO?
SHOULD I DO IT NOW?
NO; NOW'S NOT THE TIME FOR IT...
I'M GOING ROUND THE BACK TO WAIT FOR THEM...
.....

HA—
DAMN IT...
MAN, THAT CHICK BACK THEN WAS THE CUTEST.
HAH. OBVIOUSLY, CHICKS LIKE HER WOULD HAVE A GUY WE'RE JUST PLAYING
I THOUGHT WE'D BE ABLE TO PICK UP AT LEAST ONE GIRL IF WE WALKED AROUND THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL...
THIS IS GONNA TURN OUT TO BE A COMPLETE WASTE OF TIME...
KYA'U
WHAT THE HELL, YOU'RE IN MY WAY...
OH...?

WOO, THANKS, GUYS!
WE'LL BE ABLE TO MAKE IT TO THE END OF THE FESTIVAL WITH THIS!
HMM? WHERE'S NANASE-SAN?
HUH? SHE SAID SHE WAS GOING TO HELP YOU GUYS MOVE THE STOCK.
DID YOU MISS EACH OTHER?
REA-LLY?
Sigh
NISHINO!
!
SAKUMA-SAN...


Nosy people
UGH, THIS ISN'T A GOOD PLACE TO HEAR IT!
UM, ABOUT THE EVENT ON THE LAST DAY OF THE FESTIVAL...
I-I SHOULD TAKE THIS SOME-PLACE WITH A BIT MORE PRIVACY...


NI-
NISHI
NO
WHAT HAPPENED?
HE LEFT IN SUCH A HURRY...
WEREN'T YOU LISTENING?


THIS GUY HERE?
WHEN YOU BUMPED INTO HIM EARLIER,
HE SPRAINED HIS ANKLE!
DON'T GET ME WRONG, WE'RE NOT ASKING YOU TO PAY FOR HIS MEDICAL FEES.
BUT WE'RE ABOUT TO GO HOME AND HE FORGOT WHERE HE PARKED HIS CAR.
COULD YOU COME AND LOOK FOR IT WITH US?
SO-
SO SCARY! THIS IS A LOT SCARIER THAN I THOUGHT IT'D BE!
THEY'RE THE SAME GUYS WHO TRIED TO PICK HER UP EARLIER.
AND THEY'RE DEFINITELY LYING!

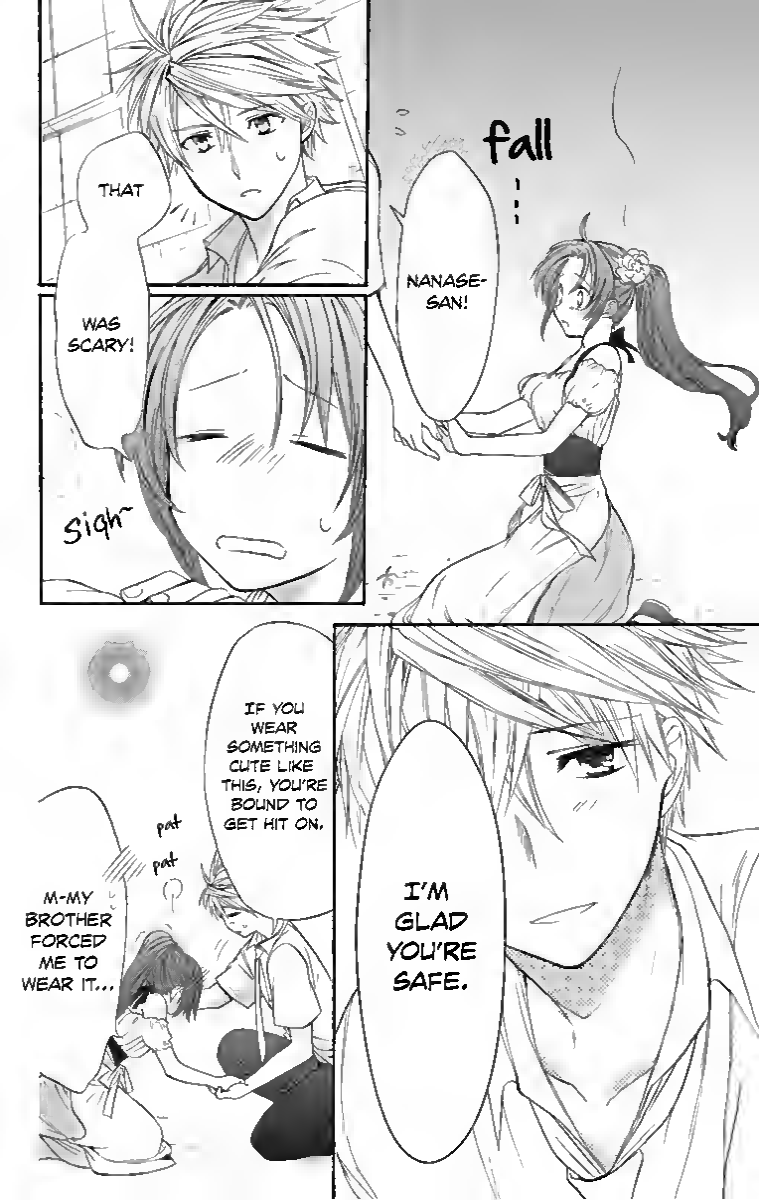
ARE YOU BY YOURSELF?
YOU'RE FREE, RIGHT? IN THAT CASE, COME. WE'LL TREAT YOU TO SOMEWHERE NICE.
WE'VE ALSO GOT A CAR, SO JUST DITCH THE SCHOOL FESTIVAL AND PLAY WITH US.
I—
I'M NOT GOING!
AND, I HAVE A LOVER!
WELL, WE DON'T CARE ABOUT THAT.
YEAH
ANYWAY, LET'S LOOK FOR OUR CAR.
HUH?
WAI—
OKAY? LET'S GO.

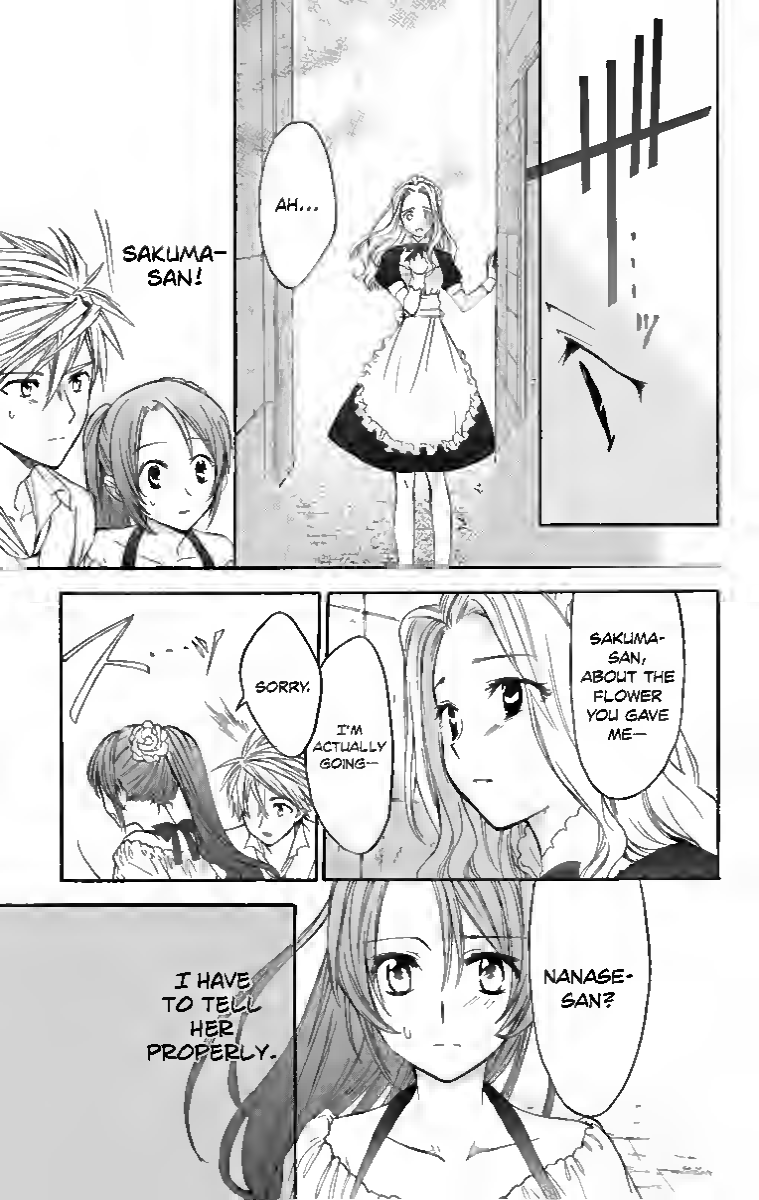
NO—
I DON'T WANT TO—

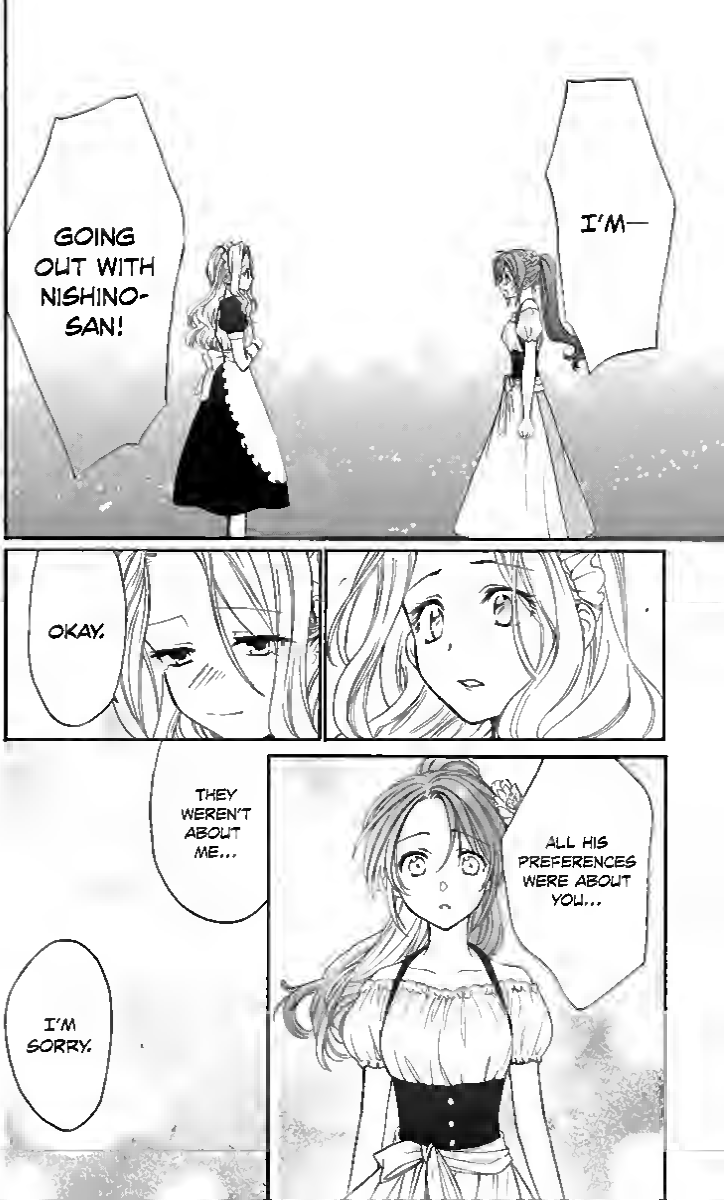
LET GO OF HER!

YOU'RE THE GUY FROM BACK THEN!
WHY DO YOU KEEP GETTING IN OUR WAY!
DON'T GET COCKY WITH US, YOU LITTLE—
Ah— Testing, testing.
To the playboy bastards hitting on girls behind the gym. leave the school grounds immediately.

Yeah, you, blondie with the shitty haircut Don't bother looking around
?!
?!
YOUR ACTIONS ARE IN PLAIN VIEW.
AND YOU SUCK AT PICKING UP GIRLS.
IF YOU GOT THE MESSAGE, THEN GET OUT OF HERE.
What's happening?
What's happening?
UGH!
DAMN IT! LET'S GO!
AH, WAIT FOR ME!

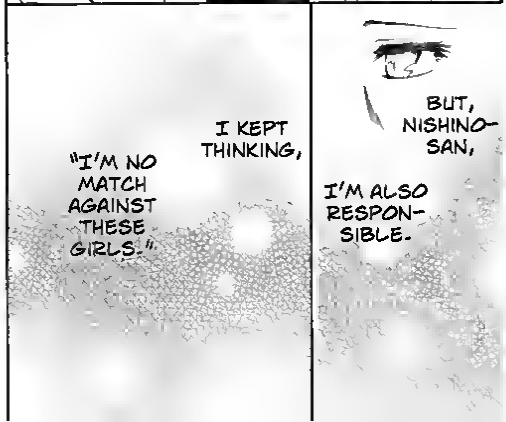

THAT
WAS SCARY!
Sigh~
fall
NANASE-SAN!
IF YOU WEAR SOMETHING CUTE LIKE THIS, YOU'RE BOUND TO GET HIT ON.
pat
pat
M-MY BROTHER FORCED ME TO WEAR IT...
I'M GLAD YOU'RE SAFE.


SAKUMA-SAN!
AH...
SAKUMA-SAN, ABOUT THE FLOWER YOU GAVE ME—
I'M ACTUALLY GOING—
SORRY.
NANASE-SAN?
I HAVE TO TELL HER PROPERLY.


GOING OUT WITH NISHINO-SAN!
I'M—
OKAY.
THEY WEREN'T ABOUT ME...
ALL HIS PREFERENCES WERE ABOUT YOU...
I'M SORRY.

I'M SORRY, NANASE-SAN.
WHY?

IT'S MY FAULT THAT SHE MIS-UNDERSTOOD ME IN SOME WAYS.
YUKIHIRO ALSO TOLD ME TO BE MINDFUL OF HOW I ACT AROUND GIRLS ..
SO THIS IS WHAT HE MEANT.. I SHOULD'VE HEEDED HIS WARNING..
Pant Pant!


BUT, NISHINO-SAN,
I'M ALSO RESPON-SIBLE.
I KEPT THINKING,
"I'M NO MATCH AGAINST THESE GIRLS.".

HUH?
THE GIRLS IN CLASS PUT IT ON FOR ME WHILE I WAS CHANGING.
IT'S NOT A ROSE,
SO—
NISHINO-SAN,
WOULD YOU ACCEPT THIS FLOWER?
BUT WILL YOU ACCEPT IT?
YES.

Kiss

I NEED TO BE MORE ASSERTIVE.
THE LEAST I CAN DO IS

BELIEVE IN THE FEELINGS I HAVE FOR HIM.

N-NANASE-SA—
MOMMY, LOOK! IT'S A SCHOOL ROMCOM!
OH MY, SO IT IS! GOOD SPOTTING, CHILD!
!!!
THAT STUPID MUTT FORGOT ABOUT OUR CLASS.
PRESIDENT, NISHINO STILL HAS THE WALLET.
GO TO THE BACK OF THE GYM AND FETCH IT. YOU'LL FIND HIM THERE.

兄友

Wife
Mom
AH, WELCOME HOME—
SORRY, MY TONGUE SLIPPED! I ONLY MEANT TO SAY WELCOME!
!!
ALL RIGHT CLASS, PLEASE INTRODUCE YOURSELVES
AFTER SAYING YOUR NAME, TELL US ONE OF YOUR HOBBIES.
Story of Mai's first day
"WELCOME HOME!" SHE SAID "WELCOME HOME"!
I'm so lucky today
WE'RE LIKE NEWLY-WEDS!
HMM?
Hobbies are all house-work related
YOUR NECKTIE IS CROOKED.
Kyu~
WHAT?! IF I SAY I LIKE DOING HOUSEWORK, I'LL SEEM LIKE A RIDICULOUSLY OLD-FASHIONED HIGH SCHOOLER! MY POSITION IN CLASS RIDES ON THIS!
UHHHH--- I'LL JUST SAY SOMETHING I LIKE DOING THAT I CAN'T DO AT HOME!
NEXT PERSON PLEASE
I'M SO HAPPY, I COULD DIE.
And so, Mai's position was decided
I LIKE GOING TO THE DOLLAR STORE!